



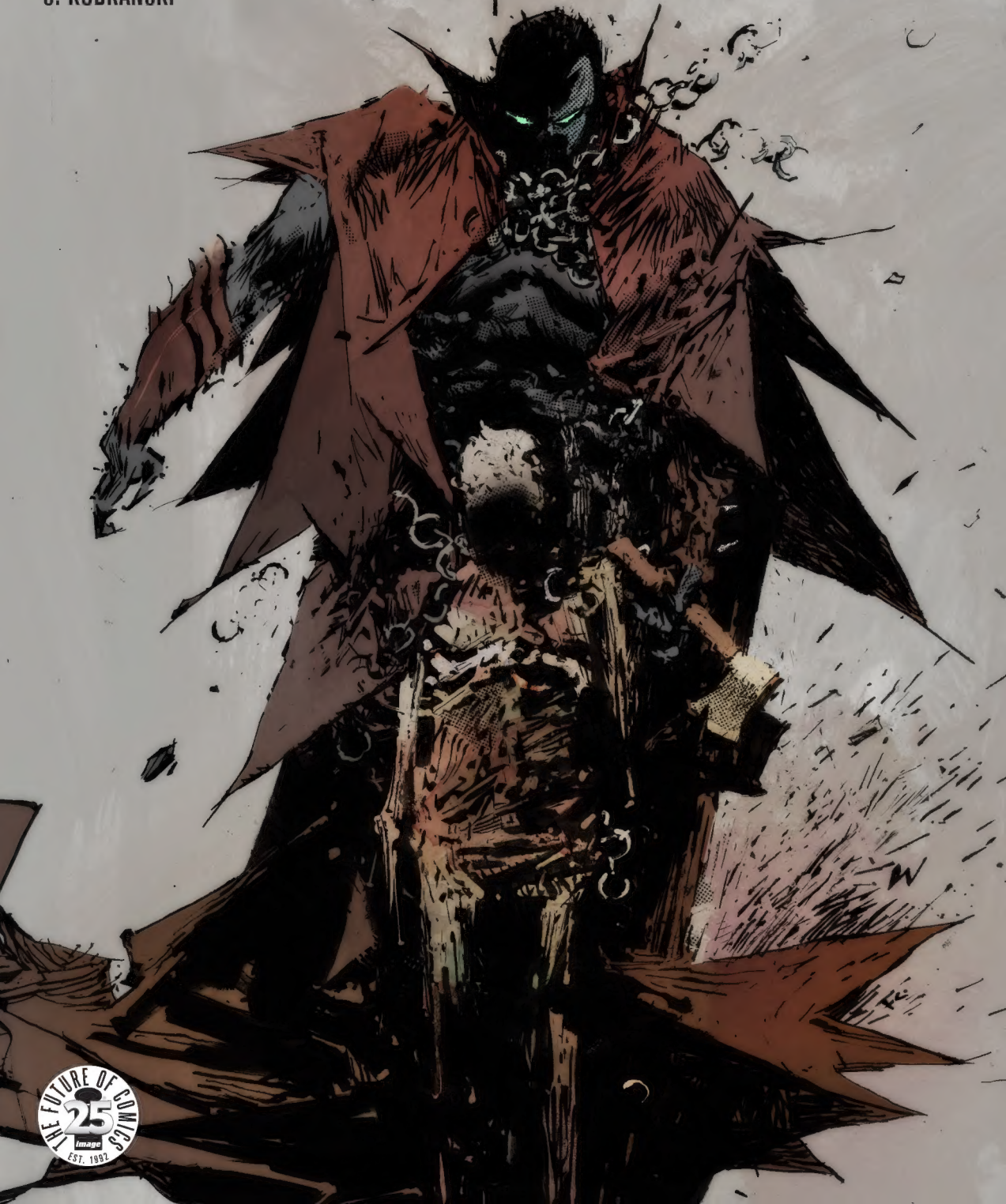
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DIGITAL  
EDITION

T. MCFARLANE  
S. KUDRANSKI

# SPAWN

MORTUUS EST AUTEM REX





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SPAWN CREATED BY  
TODD McFARLANE

#### PREVIOUSLY IN SPAWN

Cyan transports Al and herself out of the mental facility unintentionally to Al's apartment. Al then realizes that Cyan is more powerful than he previously thought. Elsewhere, Mr. Shade visits his boss, The Soul Crusher, to discuss Mr. Maitlin's decline to his offer. The Soul Crusher decides to make a personal visit to persuade him to accept. Later back at Al's apartment, Al tries to comfort Cyan, who seems just as confused as him as to why they ended up there. Al tries to call Terry, who is unable to answer because he is being questioned at police headquarters about the death of the drug dealers. Also, he is questioned about Al, who has been seen alive in recent days despite being declared dead for years. While Cyan is resting, Spawn makes a trip to Scandinavia to get Cog's advice on what to do with her. Once Cog hears how powerful she is, he tells Spawn to bring him back at once to see her. Just as they get back, the SWAT team is getting ready to raid Al's apartment.







WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU'RE SCARED? SCARED OF WHAT?

THAT YOU FOUND ME. THAT **SHOULDN'T** HAVE HAPPENED.



I'VE ALREADY SAID, I DIDN'T FIND YOU. THE COSTUME DID.



NO IT DIDN'T. **NOT** ON ITS OWN. IT HAD HELP FROM THE GIRL.

SHE HAS A NAME.

I KNOW.

THEN USE IT. IT'S CYAN, NOT "THE GIRL."



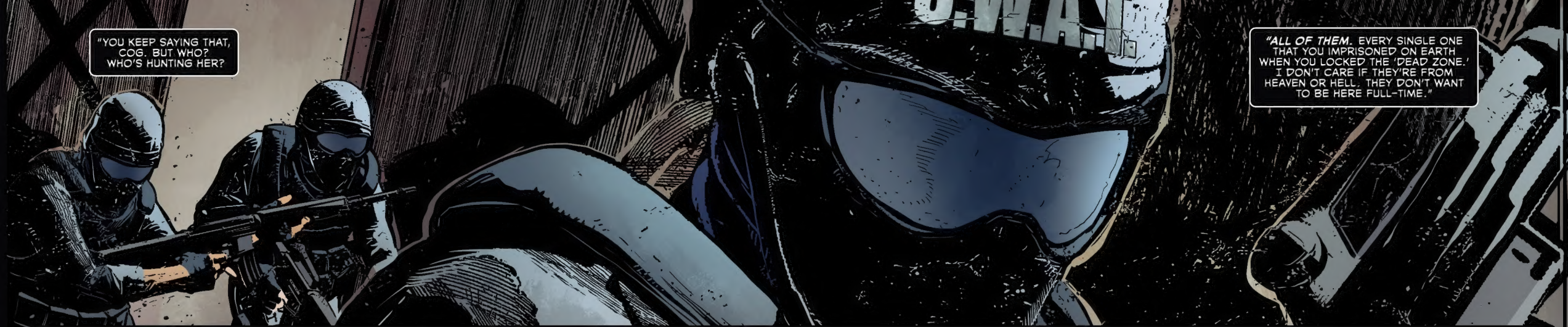
WHAT I'M TRYING TO TELL YOU IS IF YOU'RE NOT IN FULL CONTROL OF THE COSTUME RIGHT NOW--WHICH YOU AREN'T--THEN SOMEONE ELSE IS. AND IT HAS TO BE HER.

HOW?

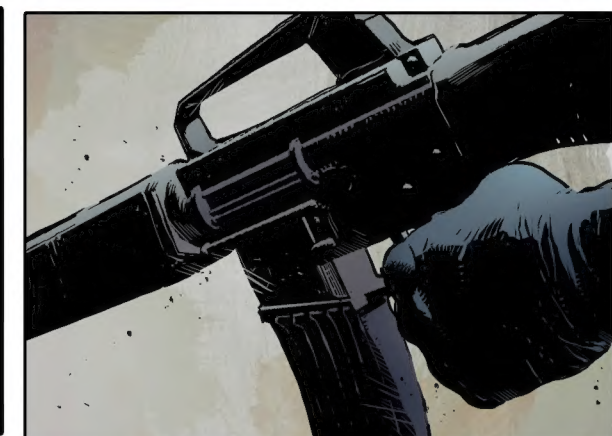
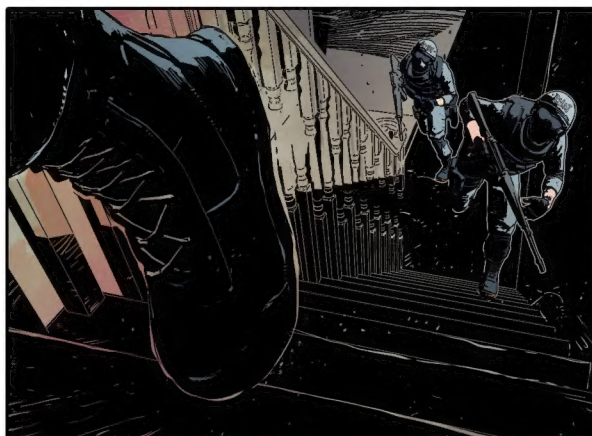


GODDAMMIT, AL! I **DON'T** KNOW. I'LL WORRY ABOUT THAT LATER. BUT SHE'S EXPOSED HERSELF TO THEM! WHICH MEANS THEY'LL MAKE IT THEIR PERSONAL MISSION TO FIND HER!





"ALL OF THEM. EVERY SINGLE ONE THAT YOU IMPRISONED ON EARTH WHEN YOU LOCKED THE 'DEAD ZONE.' I DON'T CARE IF THEY'RE FROM HEAVEN OR HELL. THEY DON'T WANT TO BE HERE FULL-TIME."







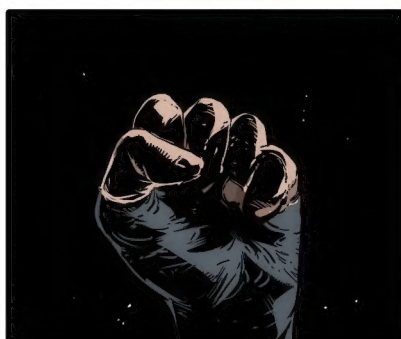
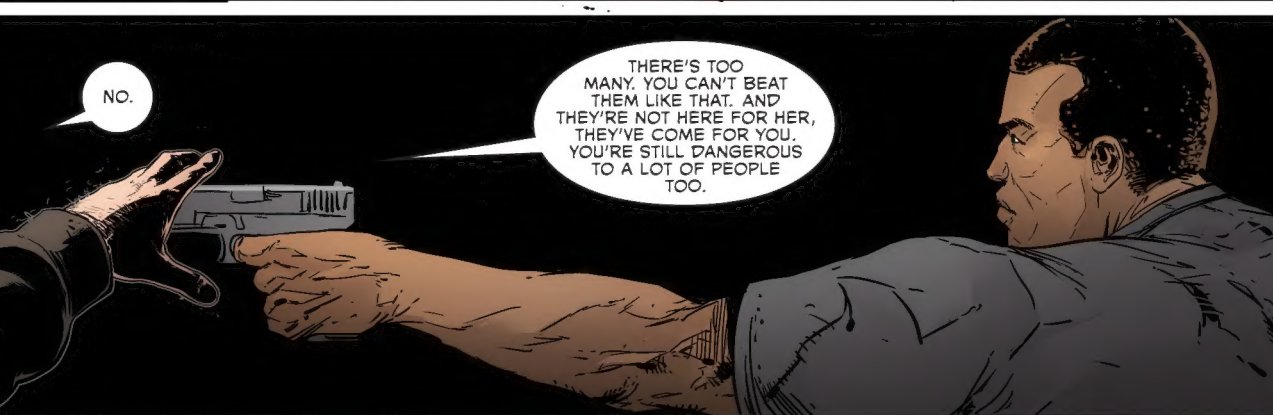
# KRAK

IT'S  
CLEAR!

CHECK THE  
BEDROOM!

S.W.A.T.













"AL, I CAN'T HOLD MY INVISIBLE CLOAK MUCH LONGER."

"IT'S OKAY. I'LL TAKE OVER NOW. HIDE CYAN. ON THE COUNT OF THREE YOU GO."





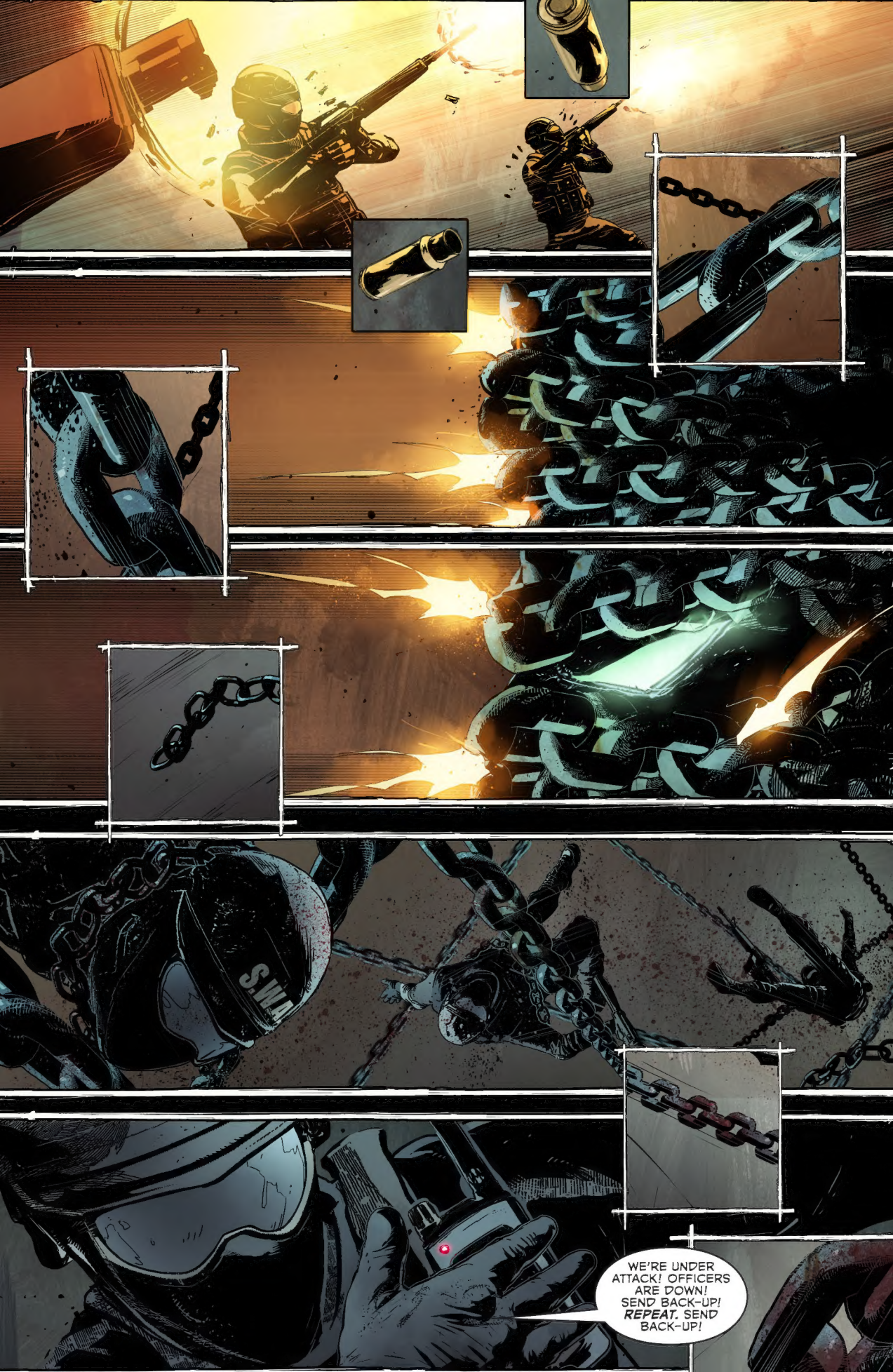


...THREE!

IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE, AL SUMMONS HIS COSTUME. THOUGH HE KNOWS IT'S NOTHING MORE THAN A THIN PROTECTIVE LAYER IT'S HIS CHAINS HE WANTS. THEY'VE BEEN THE ONLY PART OF HIS COSTUME HE'S HAD ANY CONNECTION TO.

AND RIGHT NOW IF HE'S GOING TO SURVIVE THAT CONNECTION NEEDS TO ENCASE HIM WITH THAT BOND.



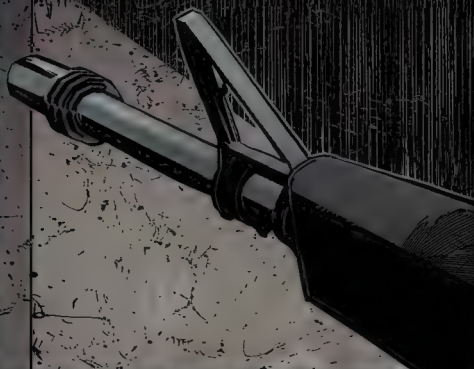
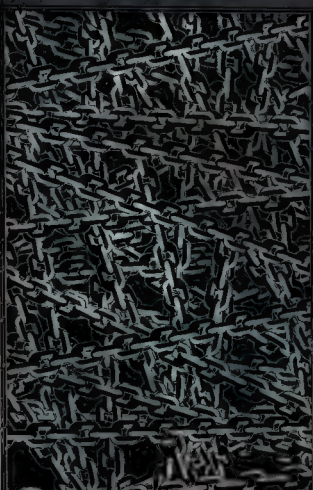
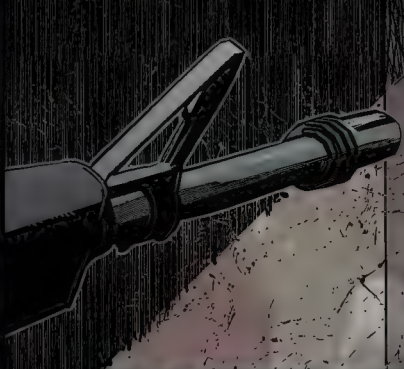


WE'RE UNDER  
ATTACK! OFFICERS  
ARE DOWN!  
SEND BACK-UP!  
REPEAT. SEND  
BACK-UP!

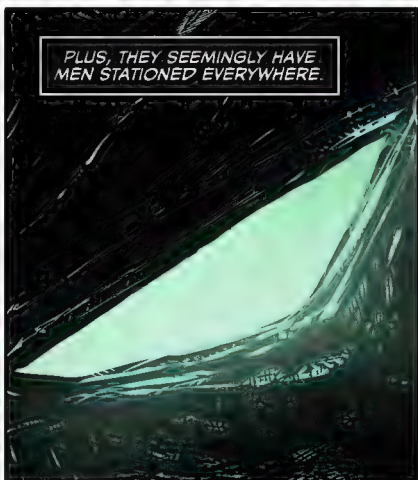




WHEN S.W.A.T. REINFORCEMENTS REACH THE FOURTH FLOOR, THEIR ENTRANCE IS BLOCKED BY A MASSIVE WALL OF LINKED STEEL.

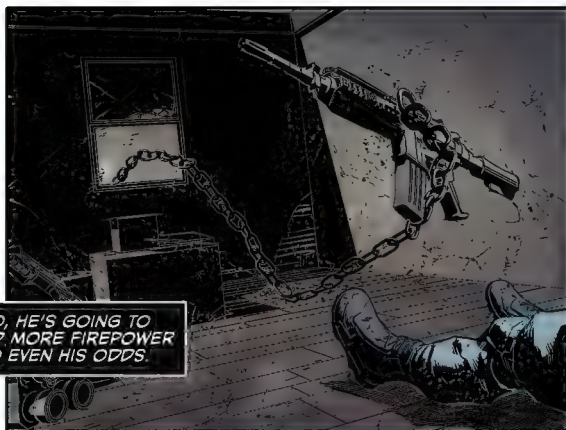


AL DIDN'T NEED TO HEAR THAT, ESPECIALLY NOW THAT HE SEES AIR SUPPORT HAS ENTERED THE FRAY.



PLUS, THEY SEEMINGLY HAVE MEN STATIONED EVERYWHERE.





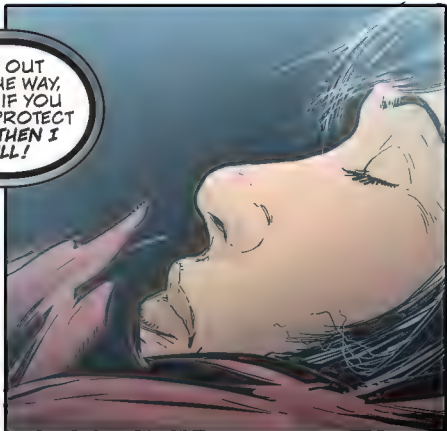
SO, HE'S GOING TO  
NEED MORE FIREPOWER  
TO EVEN HIS ODDS.



BUT WHAT'S GNAWING AT THE BACK  
OF HIS BRAIN, IS HE KNOWS THESE MEN  
ARE JUST FOLLOWING ORDERS JUST  
LIKE HE DID FOR YEARS. THEY'RE NOT  
THE TRUE ENEMY, SO HE MAKES SURE  
TO HIT THEM IN THEIR PROTECTIVE VEST  
INSTEAD OF ANY VITAL ORGANS.




THEY'LL ALL HAVE A FEW  
BROKEN RIBS FROM THE BULLETS  
IMPACT, BUT THEY'LL LIVE.



GET OUT  
OF THE WAY,  
COG! IF YOU  
CAN'T PROTECT  
HER, THEN I  
WILL!





TWO COILS OF CHAINS LASH  
OUT, SMASHING INTO THE BUILDING  
ACROSS THE STREET AND THEN  
ANCHORING THEMSELVES.

SPAWN CATAPULTS  
HIMSELF AND CYAN TO  
WHERE HE HOPES WILL  
BE SOME SAFETY.

CRAASH

HE UNWRAPS  
CYAN TO SEE IF  
SHE'S ALRIGHT.  
SHE IS.

AL IS INTENT  
ON KEEPING  
IT THAT WAY.





GROUND  
CONTROL, WE  
HAVE OUR TARGET.  
HE'S ON THE  
NORTHEAST SIDE  
OF A BUILDING  
OFF 112th.

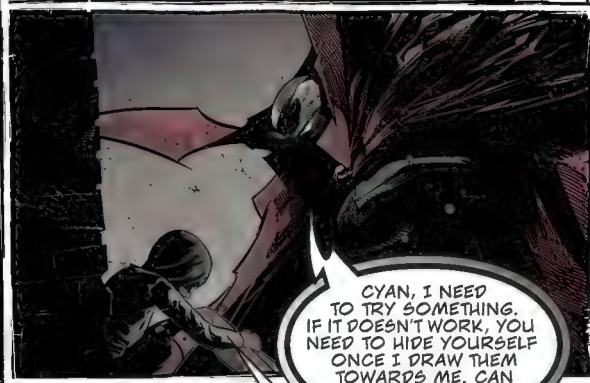
YOU ARE  
A GO.  
ENGAGE  
TARGET.



**BRAKKA  
BRAKKA  
BRAKKA  
BRAKKA**



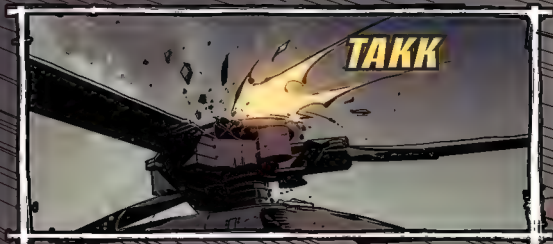
AL DIVES  
FOR COVER.



CYAN, I NEED  
TO TRY SOMETHING.  
IF IT DOESN'T WORK,  
YOU NEED TO HIDE YOURSELF  
ONCE I DRAW THEM  
TOWARDS ME. CAN  
YOU DO THAT?

I...  
THINK  
SO.

SPAWN RACES TO ANOTHER  
CORNER, SHELTERING HIMSELF AS HE  
LETS LOOSE WITH AN UNRELENTING  
STREAM OF BULLETS, WHICH HE  
HOPES WILL FORCE THE HELICOPTER  
TO ABANDON ITS MISSION.



**TAKK**



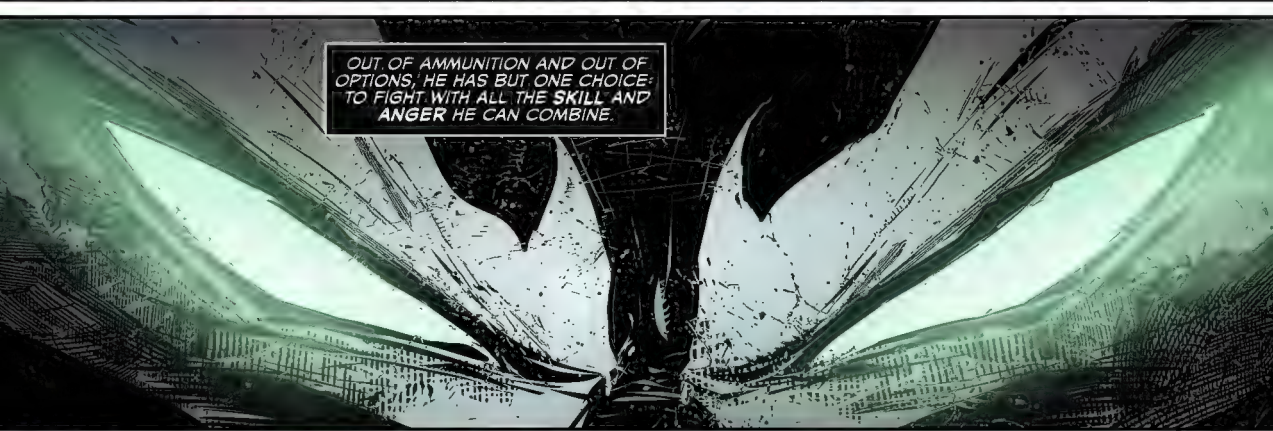


THE RESULT IS FAR GREATER  
THAN HE COULD HAVE IMAGINED.

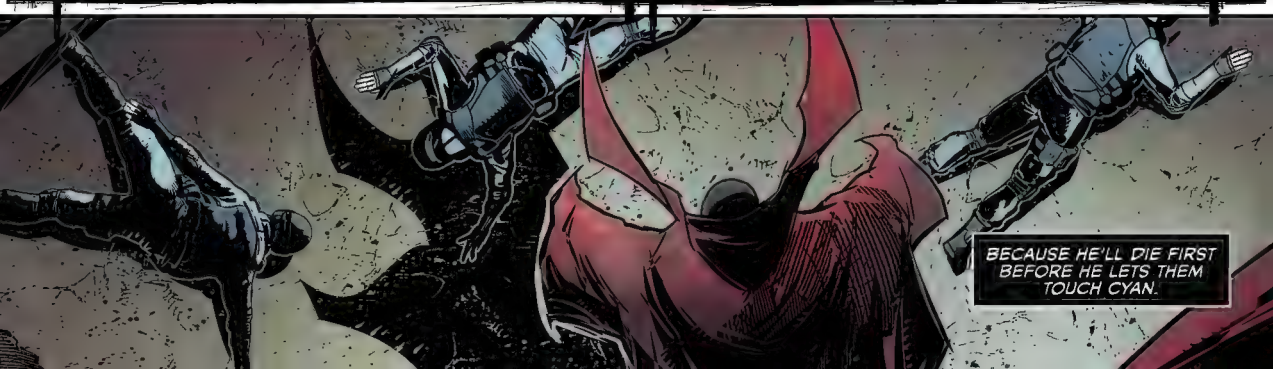
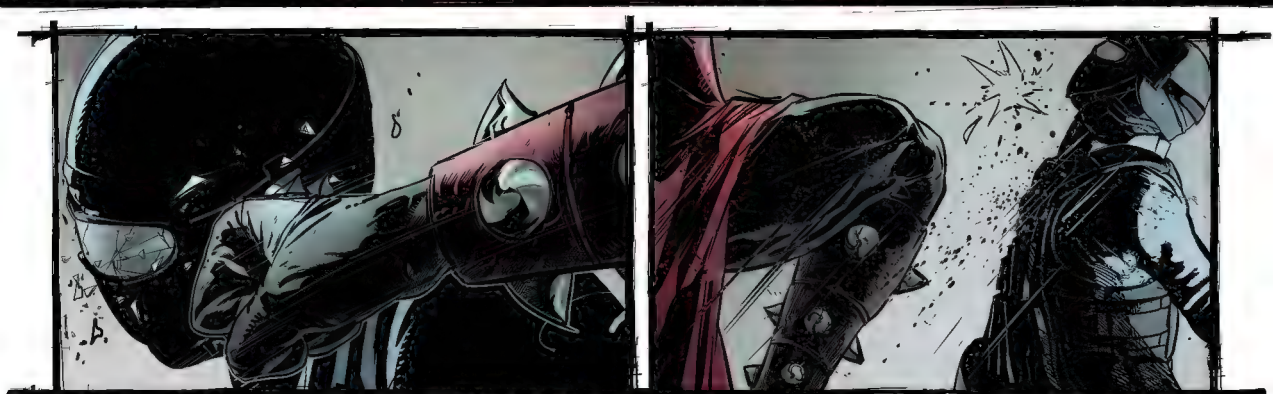
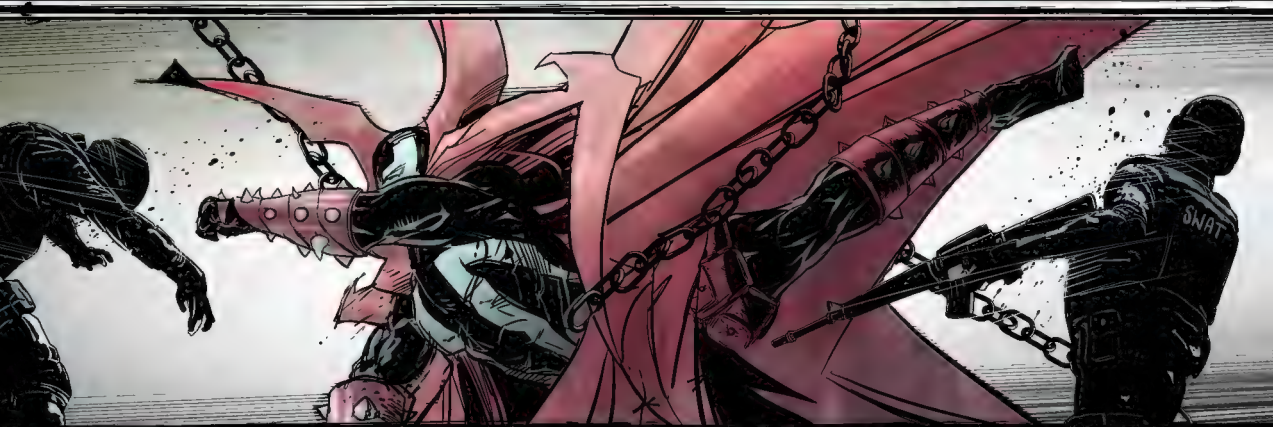




THE ROOFTOP DOORS  
BURST OPEN AS MORE  
S.W.A.T. POLICE CONTINUE  
THEIR ASSAULT.



OUT OF AMMUNITION AND OUT OF  
OPTIONS, HE HAS BUT ONE CHOICE:  
TO FIGHT WITH ALL THE SKILL AND  
ANGER HE CAN COMBINE.



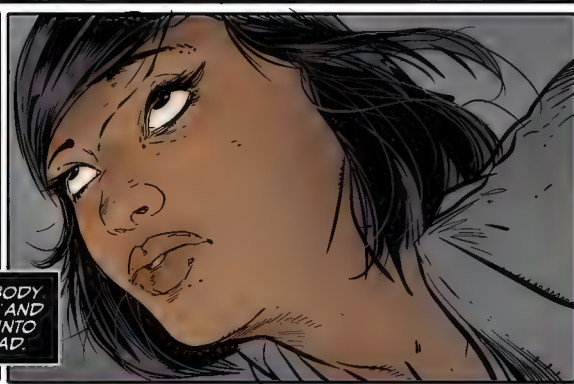
BECAUSE HE'LL DIE FIRST  
BEFORE HE LETS THEM  
TOUCH CYAN.



A large comic book panel showing Spawn, a character with a white and black striped bodysuit and a red cape, cradling a teenage girl with long dark hair and a pink shirt. She is lying back, appearing unconscious. The background is dark and indistinct.

WITH HIS ASSAILANTS DISPOSED OF, SPAWN RUSHES TO THE TEENAGE GIRL HE'S SWORN TO PROTECT. HE'S HOPING SHE HASN'T BEEN CAUGHT IN ANY OF THE HELICOPTER'S FLYING DEBRIS.


PHYSICALLY SHE'S UNINJURED, BUT WHEN HE CRADLES HER SHE FAINTS. FOR A MOMENT, SHE APPEARS TO BE LIFELESS.

A close-up of the teenage girl's face. She has a pale, lifeless expression with her eyes rolled back. Her dark hair is slightly messy.

THEN SUDDENLY HER BODY CONVULSES VIOLENTLY, AND HER EYES ROLL DEEP INTO THE BACK OF HER HEAD.

A panel showing a large, jagged piece of debris, possibly a piece of the helicopter, flying through the air. A speech bubble is next to it.

CYAN?!

A large panel showing a wide view of a city street at night. A bright green fireball is visible in the sky, with smoke and debris falling. In the foreground, the backs of several people are visible as they look up at the sky. Buildings line the street.

BELOW, EVERYONE ON THE STREET SEES A GIANT FIREBALL. THEY ASSUME IT IS MORE AFTEREFFECT OF THE HELICOPTER CRASH.

TEN MINUTES FROM NOW THEY'LL FIND OUT HOW VERY WRONG THEY ALL WERE.





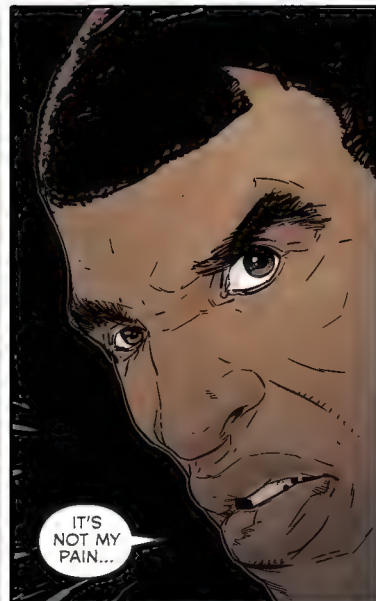
THE  
FITZGERALD  
HOME.

HOW  
DOES SHE  
KEEP  
DOING  
THIS?

"AND WHAT IS HER  
CONNECTION TO  
MY COSTUME?"  
HE ASKS HIMSELF.



BECAUSE THE PAIN  
PIERCING THROUGH HIS  
BODY IS ONE HE'S  
HASN'T FELT BEFORE.



IT'S  
NOT MY  
PAIN...



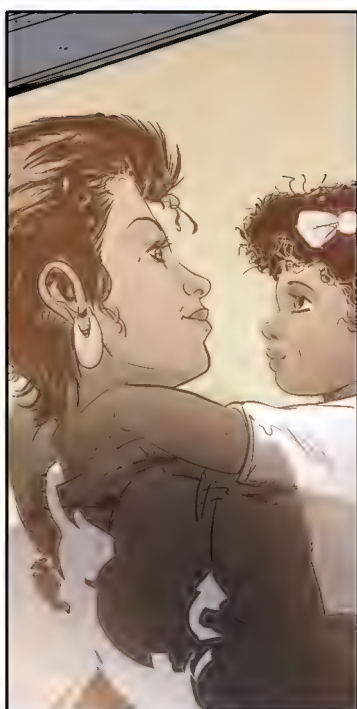
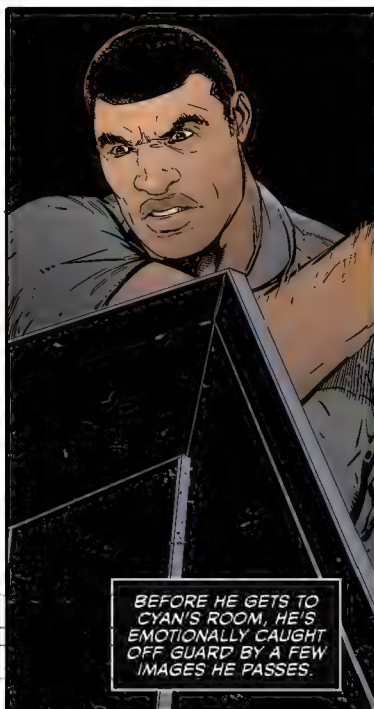
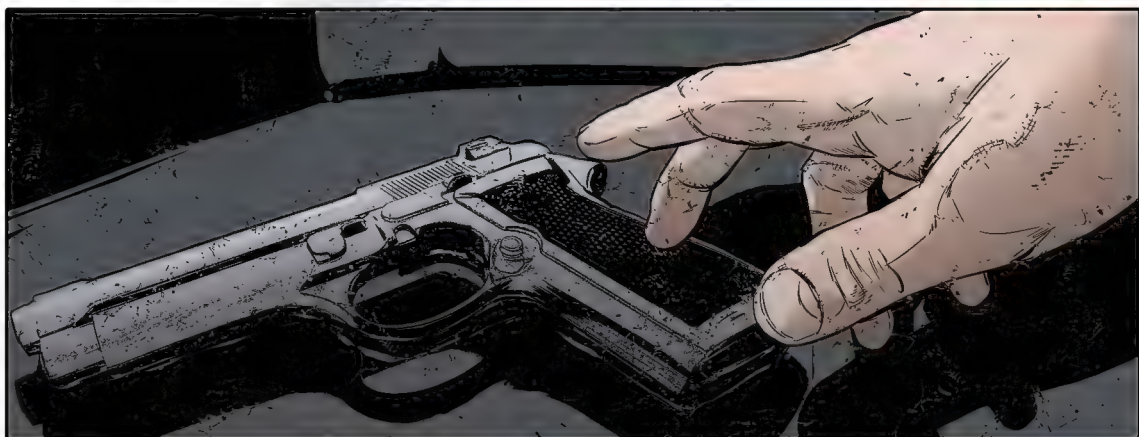
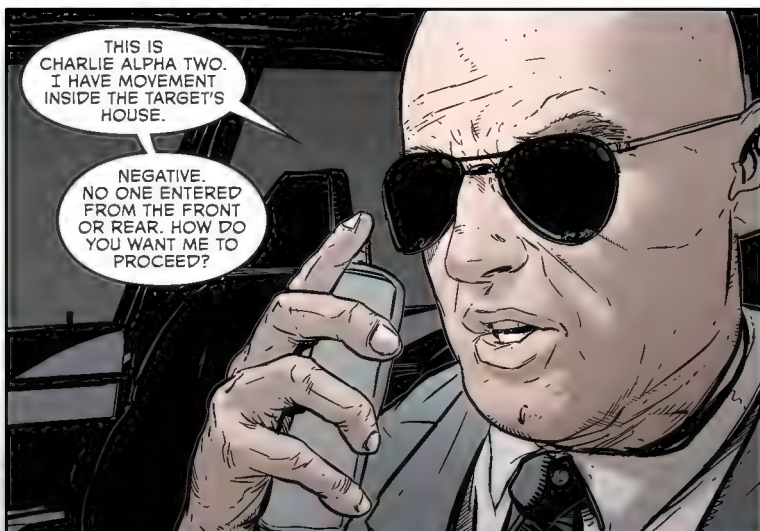
...IT'S...  
HERS.



CYAN MOANS AS SHE  
ATTEMPTS TO LIMIT HER  
INTERNAL CRAMPING.  
WHILE AL, FOR HIS PART,  
SEARCHES FOR SOME  
QUICK SOLUTION.

C'MON,  
EARL. PICK UP.  
PICK UP!







BUT HE UNDERSTANDS HOW HARD AS  
IT'S BEEN FOR HIM TO HAVE LOST HIS  
WIFE, IT MUST PAIN IN COMPARISON TO  
A YOUNG GIRL LOSING HER MOTHER.

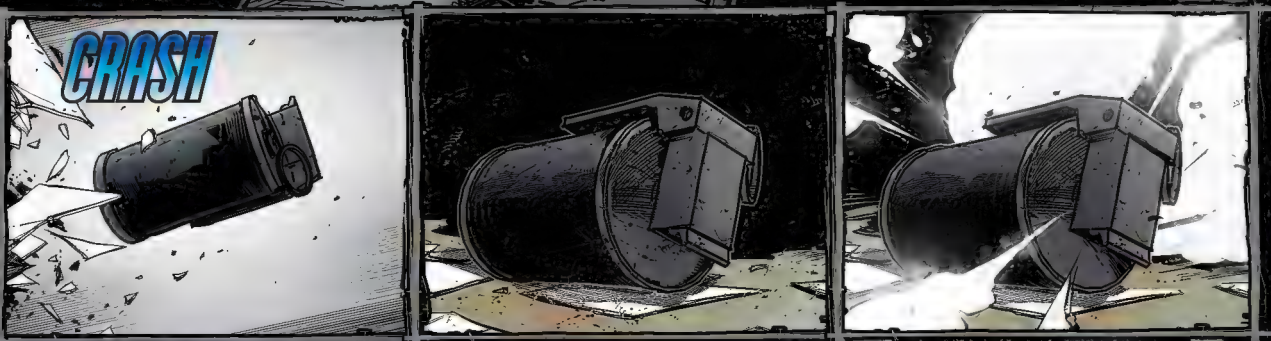
WE'RE  
GOING TO  
FIND YOUR  
FATHER.

BUT YOU  
NEED TO SLEEP.  
I'LL PUT YOU  
IN YOUR MOM AND  
DAD'S BED.  
I THINK THEY'D  
LIKE THAT.

SHE DOES SLEEP AND  
FOR THE FIRST TIME  
TODAY, AN EXHAUSTED AL  
ALLOWS HIMSELF TO  
CLOSE HIS EYES TOO.

SECONDS LATER,  
IN THE KITCHEN.

**CRASH**



"SHIT. NOT  
AGAIN!"





# SPAWNING GROUND

P.O. Box 12230  
Tempe, AZ 85284-0038

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Spawn 271 Code Word:  
**SPAWNMONTHISCOMING**

Winners will be notified by email two weeks after the release of the comic.

Good Luck!

Thank you all for being loyal fans of Spawn!

Shannon Bailey  
Publishing Coordinator



### NEXT ISSUE

Spawn continues to fight for Cyan's freedom as her condition reveals itself.





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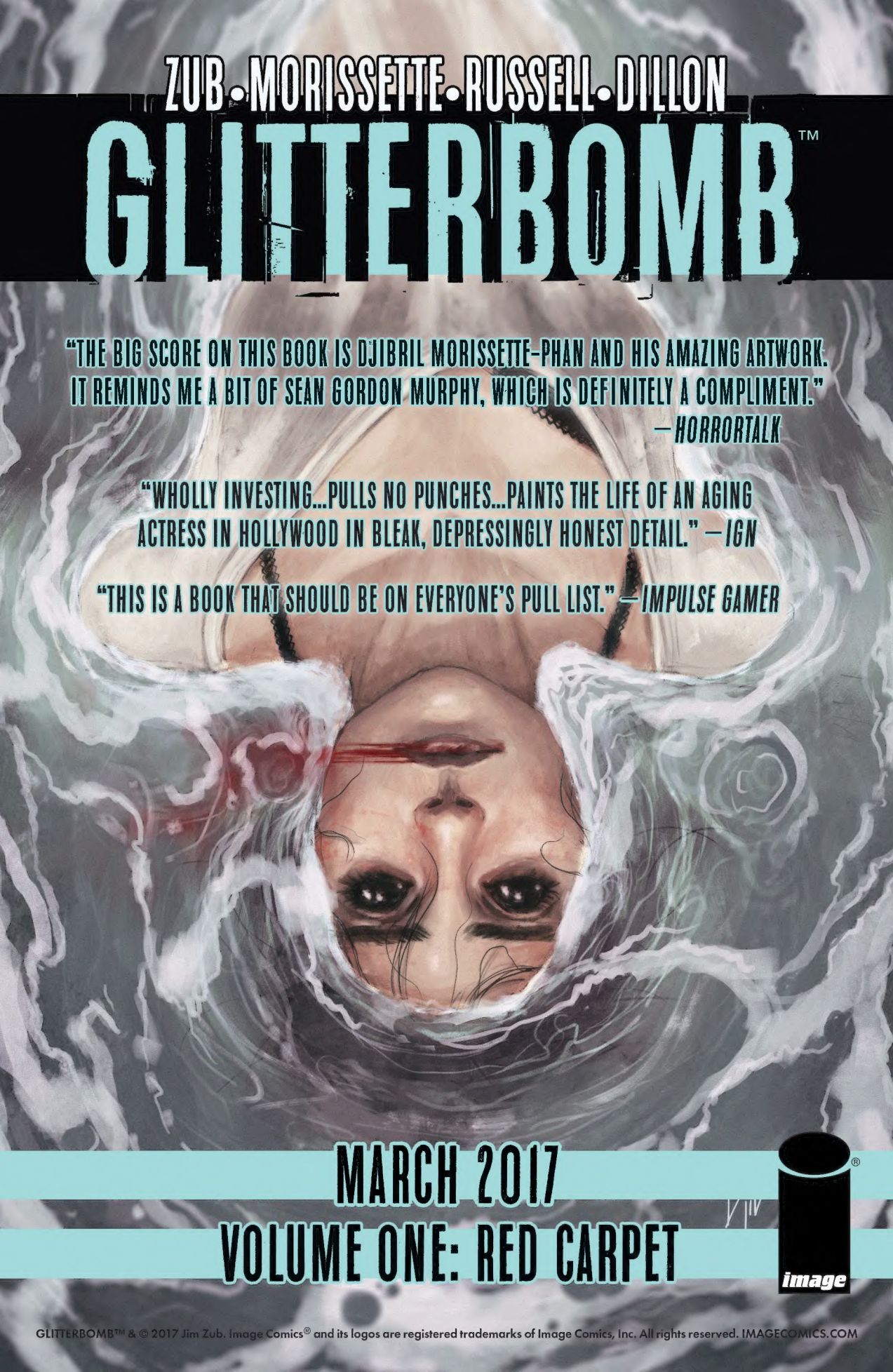
*-Jason Aaron*

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